

dom over 2 mm. diameter. Filaments closely packed, sheaths 15-20 μ diameter, colorless or yellowish, more or less expanded above; trichomes 6-10 μ diameter, aerugineous; articulations about as long as broad below, one third to one quarter as long above, subtorulose, tapering gradually to a hair-like termination; heterocysts basal, globose or oblong.

It resembles *R. minutula* (Kuetz.) Born. & Flah., but the thalli are much firmer, and not at all encrusted with lime; the trichomes are slenderer, and the filaments more densely packed. In some particulars it agrees with the description of *R. Beccariana* (De Not.) Born. & Flah., Revis. des Nost. Het., part 2, p. 56; but the latter has more slender trichomes, with longer articulations and much narrower sheaths. It grew in abundance at the locality mentioned, in company with *Schizothrix lacustris* var. *caespitosa* Gomont. It has also been found by Professor W. A. Setchell, near Norwich, Conn.

The species here considered have all been distributed in Fascicle XI of the Phycotheca Boreali-Americana; *Cylindrospermum catenatum* as No. 505; *Anabaena catenula* as No. 506; *Rivularia compacta* as No. 508. *Schizothrix Friesii* as No. 503; and *S. purpurascens* v. *cruenta* as No. 504.

MALDEN, MASS.

A PROLIFIC FRINGED GENTIAN. — I have in my herbarium a specimen of the Fringed Gentian, *Gentiana crinita*, Froel, bearing eighty-five flowers. This is certainly an extraordinary number, and it shows what a degree of vitality our small annuals can display under suitable conditions. The plant was collected in a damp meadow in Weston, Massachusetts, by Thomas T. Hinkley, and was given to me fresh the same day. It is 27 inches high, and is just past flowering. As far as I am able to judge, about half of the flowers would have produced ripe fruit. — WALTER DEANE, Cambridge, Mass.

MYOSOTIS COLLINA IN NEW ENGLAND. — An interesting little emigrant from the Old World has recently been collected at the Point of Pines, in the town of Revere, Massachusetts. This is the *Myosotis collina* of Hoffman, which appears to have become well established in damp, grassy land, where it was found in great abundance. It is a low, hairy annual, seldom attaining six inches in height. The spatulate to obovate, scarcely pointed leaves are mostly clustered near the base, a

few extending a short distance up the loose racemes. The ascending stems are sometimes branched, and then always from near the base. The pedicels are barely one third the length of the calyx. The flowers are blue, and very small, and the deeply five-cleft calyx is open in fruit.

Bentham, in the "Handbook of the British Flora," says of this plant, "Flowers in early summer, and dies soon after." How completely this is the case the writer had occasion to observe. The plant was first noted on May 23d, when it was at its best; on June 12th, only a few dried specimens were found, after diligent search.

There is a specimen of this plant in the Gray Herbarium, collected at Edmonton, Ontario, and also one from a cemetery at Ithaca, N. Y., where it is said to be abundant. As far as I am able to find out, this is its first appearance noted in New England. — EMILE F. WILLIAMS, Boston, Mass.

A NEW WILD LETTUCE FROM EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS.

B. L. ROBINSON.

(Plate 2.)

AN interesting and noteworthy *Lactuca* has recently been discovered at Marshfield, Mass., by Mr. Charles H. Morss of Medford. In habit and color of corollas it resembles blue-flower specimens of *L. leucophaea*. From this species, however, it is clearly distinguished by its white pappus and broad, flat achenes, which are provided with a short but filiform beak. From our other eastern species, *L. canadensis*, *integrifolia*, and *hirsuta*, it differs not less markedly in its blue flowers and shorter-beaked, more numerous ribbed achenes. All efforts to identify the plant with southern or western types, or with any of the numerous species of the Old World, have proved unsuccessful, and it seems best to place it on record as a new type.

***Lactuca Morssii*.** Stem simple, strict, leafy, 1 to 3 m. high, somewhat hirsute toward the base: leaves runcinate-pinnatifid, mostly 5-lobed, 1.2 to 2 dm. long, about half as broad, borne upon broadly-winged cordate-clasping petioles; the lower leaves sparingly hirsute beneath, upon the midrib and wings of the petioles, otherwise, like the upper ones, quite glabrous; lobes shallowly dentate; terminal segment mostly deltoid or transversely rhombic, rather abruptly acuminate, or in the uppermost leaves provided with a lanceolate apical lobe: panicle ample, 5 to 6 dm. long; branches ascending; heads